

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1349

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor Carol Eller "Candy" Stooksbury for her meritorious service to the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to a dedicated professional who astutely serves her community in two lifesaving capacities; and

WHEREAS, for twenty-nine years, Carol Eller Stooksbury, RN, has helped save lives as a nurse at Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, a stroke/vascular research nurse, she currently serves as the coordinator for the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program at Fort Sanders and manages its accreditation by the American College of Surgeons; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a superhero at work, Ms. Stooksbury also wears a bright red cape in her spare time, at least figuratively, as the owner and handler of K-9 Barnabas, a specially trained search and rescue bloodhound; and

WHEREAS, Candy Stooksbury and Barnabas began their search and rescue exploits as volunteers but have since been employed by several area law enforcement agencies, including the Campbell County Sheriff's Department, where Ms. Stooksbury serves as a Deputy; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Stooksbury and Barnabas have participated in numerous search and rescue efforts over the years, including the Sevier County wildfires of 2016, collapsed structures, home and commercial fires, and suspected drownings; they were once able to find a missing eleven-year-old boy through Barnabas's singular sense of smell; and

WHEREAS, Candy Stooksbury gladly donates her time to help find missing persons, knowing that the missing person is someone's loved one and that even if the person is deceased, finding his or her remains helps their family attain closure; and

WHEREAS, both a compassionate healer and a dedicated law enforcement officer, Candy Stooksbury is most worthy of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Carol Eller "Candy" Stooksbury for her meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, both as a nurse and the expert handler of Barnabas, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.